

A New Species of *Latirus* from the Philippine Islands (Gastropoda: Fasciolaridae)

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ABSTRACT

Latirus deynzerorum new species is described from specimens obtained in tangle nets set off Bogo, NE Cebu Island, Philippine Islands and elsewhere in the central Philippine Archipelago.

INTRODUCTION

During the past ten years many new species or otherwise significant specimens of marine mollusks have been collected by fishermen from tangle nets set in moderately deep water in the channels off the central Philippine Islands, mostly in the region of Cebu and Bohol. Specimens of the new species of *Latirus* described herein were obtained several years ago from these sources by Major Al Deynzer of Showcase Shells, Sanibel, Florida, who recently submitted the specimens for study. We take pleasure in describing this new taxon in honor of Bev and Al Deynzer, who, as avid students of mollusks, have generously shared their discoveries with us and others through the years.

SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

Family Fasciolaridae Gray, 1847

Subfamily Peristerniinae Tryon, 1880

Genus *Latirus* Montfort, 1810

Type species: by monotypy, *Latirus aurantiacus* Montfort, 1810 [= *L. gibbulus* (Gmelin, 1791)], Recent, Indo-Pacific.

Latirus deynzerorum new species
(figures 1-3)

"*Latirus* sp." Springsteen, 1985:4, 7, fig. 4.

Diagnosis: A medium-size latirid, ornamented with prickled varices. Shell somewhat resembles *Latirus maculata* (Reeve, 1847: *Turbinella* species 70, pl. 13:70a, 70b) from the Indo-Pacific (Springsteen & Leobrera, 1986: 181, pl. 48:22). It differs from Reeve's taxon in having a

larger, more angular shell, with a much longer and more recurved siphonal canal and by distinctive sculptural characters and color patterns. *Peristernia cremnoehione* Melvill (1891:397, pl. 2:9), a smaller species attaining 24 mm in length, from Mauritius, more closely resembles this new taxon in the outline and color pattern of the shell. Melvill's taxon, however, lacks a siphonal fasciole, and has a short, straight siphonal canal, characteristic of *Peristernia*.

Description: Shell solid, fusiformly elongate, attaining 40+ mm in length, whorls angularly rounded, axially ribbed and crossed by conspicuous spiral lirae forming small prickle-like protusions medially on varices, siphonal canal narrowly elongated and recurved, outer lip thin, edge of labrum lirate.

Protoconch glossy, smooth, consisting of 1½ embryonic whorls; postnuclear whorls 6 to 6½ in number, with 8 to 9 widely spaced, rounded axial ribs, crossed by about 14 strong spiral cords on the body whorl posterior to the siphonal canal. Suture partially obscured by fluted axial riblets. Dorsal surface of siphonal canal with 2 prominent spiral ridges and numerous lesser intervening lirae. Aperture widely ovate, outer lip with weak lirations; columella smooth, with inner margin raised to form a thin detached edge anteriorly, extending to near the terminal end of the narrow, recurved siphonal canal; siphonal fasciole well-formed and strongly corded. For measurements, see table 1. Radula and soft parts not seen.

Color: Protoconch light tan; base color of shell orange buff, early whorls of spire grayish brown, subsequent whorls with broken bands of brown forming prominent blotches (figure 1); some specimens weakly blotched or entirely lacking blotches (figures 2, 3); fasciole stained dark brown above and within the groove; aperture pinkish white.

Type locality: Off Bogo, NE Cebu Island (11°03'N, 124°E), from tangle nets set in moderately deep water. May, 1981.

Type depository: Holotype AMNH 232135, 4 paratypes AMNH 232139; 2 paratypes in the Deynzer collection.



Figures 1-3. Type specimens of *Latirus deynzerorum* new species. 1. Holotype AMNH 232138; 2, 3. Paratypes AMNH 232139, $\times 1\frac{1}{2}$.

Range: Known from the type locality in the central Philippine Islands; also off Panglao Island (9°35'N, 123°48'E), October, 1985, in "deep water," tangle nets, AMNH 239585 (2 specimens, ex-F. J. Springsteen coll.); and off Punta Engaño, Maetan Island, NE Cebu, in tangle nets (Springsteen, 1985:4).

Remarks: Our knowledge of the taxonomic relationships of the multitude of latirid-like species that are referable to Peristerniinae genus-group taxa has not progressed much since the appearance of the early reviews of Kiener (1840), Küster and Kobelt (1844-1876), Reeve (1847), Tryon (1880, 1881), Cossmann (1889) and Melvill (1891, 1911). At the present time (see Boss, 1982:1016, 1017; Vaught, 1989:50), most of these species are assigned to either the genus *Latirus sensu lato* (with several non-nominate subgenera), or to the genus *Peristernia* Mörch (1852:99), type species (by subsequent designation: Cossmann 1889:166), *Turbinella crenulata* Reeve (1847, pl.

4, fig. 24). Based on shell characters alone, however, generic placement of these species is largely arbitrary, without knowledge of the radular morphology. For example, the type of *Fusolatirus* Kuroda and Habe (1971:182), *Fusolatirus pilsbryi* (Kuroda and Habe, 1971:183, pl. 50, figs. 1, 2), was described as having "... the shell of *Latirus*-form and the radula of *Peristernia*-formula." Therefore, the precise generic allocation of the new species described herein must remain provisional until the nature of the radula is known.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In addition to Major Deynzer, we thank F. J. Springsteen for contributing comparative material. We also thank Andrew S. Modell and Stephanie Crooms of the American Museum of Natural History, respectively, for the photography and word-processing.

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- Table 1. *Latirus deynzerorum* new species. Shell measurements of specimens in mm and number of postnuclear whorls; widths measured including varices. n = 9. Specimens deposited in the AMNH collection unless otherwise stated
- | | Length | Width | No. whorls |
|----------------------------|--------|-------|------------|
| Holotype (this study) | 39.6 | 17.3 | 6½ |
| Paratype (this study) | 39.1 | 16.4 | 6½ |
| Paratype (this study) | 33.4 | 15.3 | 6 |
| Paratype (this study) | 34.2 | 15.7 | 6 |
| Paratype (this study) | 33.9 | 15.0 | 6 |
| Paratype (this study) | 30.0 | 14.4 | 6 |
| Paratype (this study) | 27.2 | 12.5 | 6 |
| Referred type (this study) | 25.5 | 16.1 | 6½ |
| AMNH 239585 | 28.8 | 13.3 | 6 |
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